

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Thomas Hamilton S30470

f15SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

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[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' or 'undeciphered' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading skills fail to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention. Researchers should not rely solely on the transcripts but should review the originals for themselves. These transcripts are intended as an aid to research, not to be used in lieu thereof.]

State of Tennessee Rhea County: Circuit Court March Term 1833

On the 25th day of March 1833 personally appeared in open Court before the Honorable Judge of the Circuit Court of Rhea County and State of Tennessee now sitting being a Court of record Thomas Hamilton a resident of Rhea County in the State of Tennessee aged about 72 years who being first's duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832 –

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named Officers, and served as herein after stated to wit That he entered the service of the United States in Greenville County now Abbeville in the State of South Carolina sometime about the first of February 1778 [sic, 1779] he was drafted for three months to keep Garrison at what was called the Cherokee Ford on the Savannah River his officer was Lieutenant Thomas Spanklin. Sometime after he went to the Garrison he turned out volunteer in a horse company under Captain Robert Anderson and Lieutenant Thomas Spanklin for the purpose of marching against a company of Tories commanded by one Col Moore and Boyd: met the Tories at the mouth of Vans Creek¹ where he was in a battle with them after the battle he returned to the Garrison where he served out his term of three months and was discharged by his officers which discharge has been lost or mislaid.

Sometime in the summer of 1778 he volunteered in a horse company in the County which he thinks is now called Pendleton South Carolina under Captain Robert Anderson and Lieutenant Ths. Spanklin for three months for the purpose of guarding the frontiers against the Cherokees served out his term of three months returned home and was discharged by his Captain which discharge is also lost.

In February 1779 he was drafted as a horseman for three months in the same County since called Abbeville under Lieutenant Samuel Kin. He was stationed on Beach Island 9 miles below Augusta on the Savannah River. Sometime afterwards left Beach Island marched into Georgia and joined the Georgia Troops under Colonel Twiggs [John Twiggs] and also Colonel Pickens [Andrew Pickens] from South Carolina. Joined their march to the Midway Settlement in Georgia to Governor Writes [sic, Wright's] of Georgia who had turned Tory and armed his Negroes, drove him and dispersed his Negroes then marched to Ogeechee ferry where the British had a guard, had a skirmish with them, returned to South Carolina after taking 25 prisoners and

¹ Cherokee Ford Fight and the Battle of Vann's Creek, Georgia. Southern Campaigns of the American Revolution 5(1):21-23. <http://southerncampaign.org> , July 1, 2013 & <https://allthingsliberty.com/2017/02/crossing-great-divide-battle-van-creek-georgia-february-11-1779/>

75 Negroes, was discharged by his officers after serving out his term of indraftment [sic] but got no discharge.

Sometime in the spring of 1780 he turned out volunteer in a horse company in the same County and State under Captain Robert Caruthers and Lieutenant John Coldwell [sic, John Caldwell] marched to join General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene] who was marching into that section of country, learnt from an express that the Indians and Tories were making havoc at home, returned, suppressed them and marched to join General Greene again who sent orders to return and guard the frontiers until further orders, where remained until General Greene then sent orders to disperse in small companies and assist in saving the harvest which was done while he was thus employed the Indians came on them and took off their horses and other property. The troops immediately collected into a body, pursued the Indians to their Towns, retook a great deal of the property they had carried off, he still continued in active service guarding the frontiers until peace was made in the year 1781 after serving ten months he was dismissed by his officers but got no discharge.

The first tour he served three months. The second he served three months. The third tour of three months and the fourth tour ten months making in all nineteen months.

He was acquainted with Captain George Liddle and Captain Samuel Taylor, Captain Tutt [Benjamin Tutt] and Captain John Boys [sic, ?] all of the regulars also he was acquainted with Generals Greene and Lincoln. He has no record of his age. He was born on the fifth day of February 1760 [could be 1761] on Ashley River ten miles from Charleston in South Carolina. He moved to Rocky River in Abbeville County South Carolina then called the district of Ninety Six where he lived 20 years and had his residence during the revolutionary war. Since that, he moved to Rhea County in the State of Tennessee where he now resides and has resided for a good many years. Declarant states that he never received but two discharges and they are lost as stated above and that he has no other evidence either documentary or any person that he knows of by whom he can prove his services.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension Roll of the Agency of any State. And refers to the persons named in the annexed certificate as persons who can testify as to his character for veracity &c.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Thomas Hamilton, X his mark

[John Pardoe, a clergyman, Hugh Rhea and A. W. Smith gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$63.33 commencing March 4th, 1831, for 19 months service as a private in the South Carolina Militia.]